

THE PRESENTMENT OF THE Grand-Jury of the Hundred of Ofsulfton, for the County of *Middlefex*:



We present, as Our Opinion, That the best way to Secure the *Monarchy*, To Preserve the *King's* Person in Safety, and His *Majesty's* Government in Peace; is the due Execution of the Laws.

That it is the Duty of all *Magistrates* in their several Places; to take care; that the Laws be impartially Executed.

That all Persons, who Associate together with a greater Number than the Law allows, in *Conventicles*, *Clubs*, or *Cabals*, to do Unlawful Acts, and do any such Act, are Riotous Persons, and ought to be Proceeded against, as Riotors.

We present; That all Persons who do not frequent the Church, according to Law, are *Recusants*; it being not possible to know the Hearts of Men, for what Cause they refuse to come to Church; and that all Connivance, or Indulgence in that Case, upon any Pretence, is a ready Way to bring in *Popery*.

We present, That all such Persons, who go from County to County, and Associate in Numbers, to do Unlawful Acts, are to be taken as Vagrants, and Persons very dangerous to the Government.

We present, That those Persons, who Publish *Libellous* Matters against the Government, or False News, ought to be Enquired after, and Punished.

That by the Statute of the 13th. and 14th. of His Majesty that now is, all Persons are to be Disarm'd, whom the *Lord Lieutenant*, or the *Deputy-Lieutenants*, shall judge Dangerous to the Peace of the Kingdom. And we present, That all such Persons, who in Multitudes wilfully, and in Contempt of the Government, break the Laws, are dangerous to the Peace of the Kingdom.

We present, as Our Opinion, That *Popery*, and *Phanaticism*, are equally dangerous to the Government, by Law Established. The *Papists*, ever since the *Reformation*, have Plotted, and Contrived many Designs against this Kingdom; but secretly, not by the Appearance of any open Force; but, by *God's* Providence, and the Wisdom of the Government, they have been always disappointed. The *Phanatics* made but one Attempt, and with a high Hand Raised a Rebellion, Murdered the Best of *Kings*; many of the Loyal Nobility and Gentry, Took away their Estates, Laid aside the *Monarchy*, Destroy'd the Church, and for almost Twenty Years, exercised Arbitrary and Tyrannical Government against Law.

The Extortion of *Bayliffs* was given us in Charge. We are of Opinion, That the best way to prevent such Abuses, is, that no *Bayliffs*, or their Followers, may be permitted to keep Taverns, Ale-Houses, or Victualing-Houses.

WE have Received a Paper directed to the *Lord Mayor of London*, and *Court of Aldermen*, about the Matter of *Sheriffs*. The Prayer of it is a Menace, in these Words: Our necessary Desires, in this Particular, which is of so great Importance to the whole Kingdom, and make bold to tell Your Lordship, and this Court, That all the fatal Consequences, which shall happen by your not doing what Justice this Case requires of you, will be laid at your Doors. We find some Hundreds of Hands set to the said Paper, all Private Persons. What such getting of Hands, or Associating in such Numbers, to intermeddle with the Affairs of another County, may be Interpreted, We cannot tell; or how this Overt Act of delivering the said Menace, which seems to threaten Force, may be understood, We know not: But are of Opinion, If such Seditious Practices cannot be controuled by Law, the Peace of this Kingdom is in much Danger.

All which We humbly submit to the Consideration of this Honourable Court; and pray, if We are not in the Right, to be Directed: It being our desire, That not only Our Selves, but all His Majesty's Subjects may in their several Places and Stations, Act according to Law; and not in an Arbitrary Way, impose upon their Fellow-Subjects.

Sir William Smith, Barronet.
Sir Richard Deerham, Knight, and Barronet.
Sir Clement Armiger, Knight.
Sir Edward Deering, Knight.
John Delafontain, Esq;
Humphrey Stiles, Esq;
Robert Fisset, Esq;
William Stow, Esq;
John Forster, Esq;
John Sharp, Esq;
Charles Hinton, Gent.
Henry Herringman, Gent.

John Singleton, Gent.
Richard Anberry, Gent.
Edward Shaw, Gent.
Peter Rudge, Gent.
John Thompson, Gent.
Edward Pilsworth, Gent.
Thomas Curtis, Gent.
William Cleave, Gent.
John Earsby, Gent.
George Turner, Gent.
Richard Cole, Gent.